

Mr. P R Y N N E S L E T T E R

To the *Borrough of NEWPORT*
in *Cornwall*, for which he serves in
PARLIAMENT.

GENTLEMEN,

B EING freely and unanimously elected by you (without my privity or seeking) to serve as one of your *Burgesses* in this *Parliament*, I have since my entrance into the Commons House (the 7th of Novemb.last) endeavoured to the best of my skill & Judgement, faithfully to discharge that trust and duty you repolv'd in me, (according to my Conscience) to put a speedy and happy period to our *unnaturall long-lasting bloody Warres*, and settle a firme well-grounded peace, upon such Terms of *honor, freedom, safety, & advantage*, as no Subjects under Heaven ever yet enjoyed from the Creation til this present, What my indefatigable endeavours were herein, in drawing up al the *Bills* upon the *Kings Concessions* in the late *Treaty*, is wel known to most of the *Members* then sitting, and wh at I delivered in the *House* upon the *Debate* of the *Kings Answers to our Propositions* up-on the whole *Treaty* (with a sincere and publike spirit, ayming at nothing but yours and the whole Kingdome's felicity and prosperity,not a ny private interest of mine owne) I have sent you here in print, being falsely charged by a new erected *Generall Councell of Officers of the Army* (who have trayterously usurped to themselves the *supreame Authority of the Kingdom, &c* against the knowne *Priviledges of Parlia.* the *Liberty of the Subjects*, and the *Law of the Land* forcibly seised on my selfe, and divers other *eminent Members* going to the *House* to discharge our duties, on the 6th. and 7th. of December last, in pursu-

ance of the Treaty, and secluded me and them from sitting there ever since, to yours and the whole Kingdome's prejudice) among other secured Members in the grosse, for an Apostate from the publike trust which you reposed in me, only for this S P E E C H , and the V O T E of the whole house, for the settlement of the Kingdome's peace, made in pursuance of it; they having no particular matter else to charge mee with [had they any just power to impeach or seclude me, which they have not] but this alone . How perfidiously and iniuriously they have dealt with, and how scandalously they have traduced and libelled against me, and the other restrained Members in print, upon this occasion only, you may reade in the Epistle to the Reader; though mine and the other Members innocency be so perspicuous, that they confess, they have yet no particular matters of impeachment against us, after above 7: weeks Imprisonment, but promise shortly to produce some [if they can:] whereas their owne Treasonable Rebellions, violences, perjuries and crimes, written with Sunbeams in their very foreheads, are visibile to all the world, and need no witnesses to prove their guilt; their late unparralleld exorbitances and proceedings both against the King, Parliament, Lords, Members, City and Countrey being knowne and apparent unto all. I shall therefore appeale from these usurpers, (who have no more Authority to question or restrain me, for any reall or pretended breach of my Trust, as a Member, were I guilty of it,) then the meanest Servant hath to call his Master to account for misgoverning his family, or to flout him out of doores:] unto you alone, who elected me, and are best able to know and judge of your own trust; desiring your speedy resolution of this Question, Whether in that here in spoken or voted by me, I have any wayes violated the trust or faith which you and every of you reposed in me? For which Speech and Vote, though I am judicially accountable only to the Commons House, which knowes the true grounds upon which I went, and can only truly i judi- Judge of what was there spoken and voted (none being * fit to Judge cog- any thing but those who know and hear it too) the majority of which se. S z - house concurred with me in the vote, without any division: yet, I hold c a . my selfe in some sort ministeriallye accomptable unto you for whom I serve as the properest Judges, without the House doores, of what I speake or voted in your behalfe. From whom I shall humbly request so much right and justice, upon the perusal of the inclosed Speech and papers, [which I desire may be read openly before all my Electors at your next pub.



Mr. P R Y N N E S LETTER To the Borrough of NEWPORT in Cornwall, for which he serves in PARLIAMENT.

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governing his family, or to flout him out of doores: Unto you alone,
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[which I desire may be read openly before all my Electors at your next
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publique meeting) as to testify to the world under your bands and seals
 (which you set to the return of my *Election*] your own Judgements &
 opinions, whether I have betrayed or broken the Trust you reposed in
 me or not, by what I speake or voted in this debate? and what seince you
 have of the Armies forcible secluding and imprisoning me [your Bur-
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 space together, contrary to mine and your *undoubted Priviledge*; how
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 shall be concluded or voted in the House during the Armies force upon
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 this high *Injustice* to your selves and me: With what else you think fit
 to determine touching the premises: And if you deeme it necessary, to
 returne your results herein to me, with all convenient speed: who
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 Kingdomes benefit: whose peace (by Gods blessing) had been fully set-
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Peace (who gaine their livings by the Warres) interrupted our procee-
 dings by *Imprisoning* and secluding the greatest part of the *Members*,
 and particularly

From the Kings Head
 in the Strand Jan.

26. 1648.

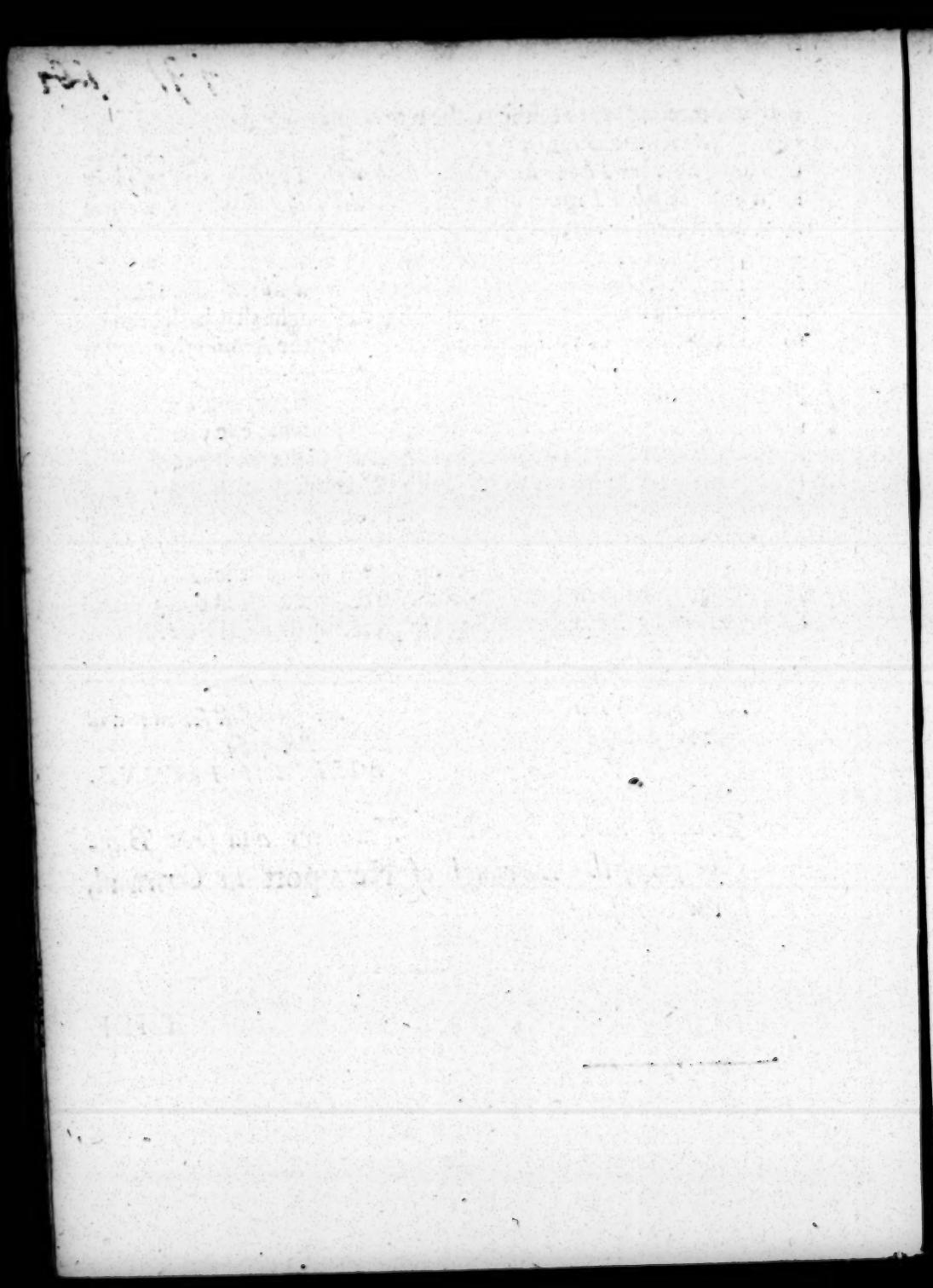
To yr most affectionat friend
 and faithfull servant and
 Burgess.

WILLIAM PRYNNE:

To his honoured Friends the *Visanders* and free *Bur-*
gesses of the *Borough of Newport in Cornwall*,
these present.

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